Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to John Coffer VAS3047

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from <u>rejected claims in the Library of Virginia</u>. Documents in this file are difficult to read.]

State of Virginia }
County of Fairfax to wit } [5 Sep 1832]

I William Henderson [X344] do upon Oath certify that I was well acquainted with John Coffer who served in Captain Thos Wests [Thomas West] Company of Foot as Second Lieutenant of which I was a Private, Colonel E. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens VAS1922] Commandant, and that I served with him for upward of Three years in the Company as above stateed (10th Virginia Regiment) that I Left the service a few months before the end of the war but do not know whether said John Coffer served to the end of the war or not but I am confident he served for the time above stated, of three years, or upward, and I do further state that I knew John Coffer Previous to the war and knew him to be Citizen of Fairfax County, and I further state after the war he returned to his former residence in Fairfax County State of Virginia and allways Considered said County his residence until his death. William hisXmark Henderson Test Robert Allison

I hereby Certify that John Coffer was appointed Second Lieutenant in Captain Thos West Company of Foot in the year 1776 in the Continental line 10th Virginia Regiment commanded by Col Edmund Stevens, that he was in the Battle of German Town [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777] and that he continued in Regular Service Untill 1778 about april or may at which time I Quit the company that Previous to the war he was a resident of Fairfax County and that he returned to Fairfax County and made said County his Permenet residence during the Balance of his life

Breamator

Chas L. Broadwater [Charles Lewis Broadwater S8096] [19 Feb 1833]

State of Virginia }
County of Fairfax } To Wit [18 July 1833]

I Thomas J. Coffer only surviving male Heir of John Coffer dece'd upon oath Testify and declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the said John Coffer did serve as a second Lieutenant in the Regiment No. 10 under the Command of Colonel Edward Stephens of the Continental line, and that he continued in service during the War and was honorably discharged.

That some time after his return home his house was consumed by fire together with all his papers &c and [undeciphered word] and his discharge was then consumed.

I further testify that he never received a Warrant for the bounty Lands promised to him on the part of the United States nor do I believe that he ever received it or transferred his claim to it in any manner whatsoever [signed] Thos. J. Coffer

Fairfax County to wit

Know all men by these presents that we Thomas Coffer, Mary F. Coffer, and Fanny B. B. Wilson Surviving heirs of John Coffer Dec'd of Fairfax County state of Virginia [several undeciphered words] hereby constitute, authorize and appoing Hugh A. Watts of Richmond City State of Virginia our true and lawful attorney, for us and in our names to investigate prosecute and recover, all and any Claim, or Claims

that we may have in and to certain Lands which are as the Heirs of the aforesaid John Coffer Decd are entitled to under [undeciphered] laws of Congress. Given under our hands and seals this [2 Aug 1833] Mary F Coffer/ Thos J. Coffer/ Fanny B. B. Wilson

State of Virginia On this 12th day of February 1834 appeared in person before the Prince William County } subscriber a Justice of the peace of the aforesaid County Geo Mills [George Mills W7449] aged 77 years and a soldier of the Revolution, who being first duly sworn on the holy Evangelists, testified and declared as follows He did then well know Capt. John Coffer of Fairfax County Va. that said Coffer was a Lieut in a company raised by Captn Charles Gallahue in 1776 for 3 years and was attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. Wm. Grayson [William Grayson BLWt1366-500] in the Virginia continental line – that pursuant to the marching of said Company from said County of Fairfax, Captn Gallahue died and Captn Thomas West took the command of his company, Lieut. Coffer still remaining attached to it, and went to the North and served a tour of 3 years, said Mills stated further that he frequently saw said Coffer whilst in actual service, and knows that he acted as a Lieut, during 3 years in aforesaid company and Regiment in the Continental army and returned home to his Native C'y of Fairfax in 1779 where he continued to reside until his death, which too place several years ago. gion wills Sworn to and subscribed the day

and year above written before James Foster

NOTE: F. B. Heitman's Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution states that John Coffer began service on 18 Nov 1776 and was "dismissed 21st April, 1778." If correct, Coffer did not serve the minimum of three years required to receive bounty land.